

Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management Full Coalition Meeting

December 16, 2020



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CCSMM Full Coalition Meeting Agenda

December 16, 2020

- Welcome and introductory remarks (5 min)
- Working group updates and takeaways (60 min)
 - Extended Producer Responsibility
 - Food Scraps/Organics Collection and Diversion
 - Increase Recycling
 - Unit-based Pricing
- Solid Waste Assessment (15 min)
- Discussion & Next steps (30 min)
- Public comment (5 min)
- Next Meeting and Closing (5 min)

CCSMM Housekeeping

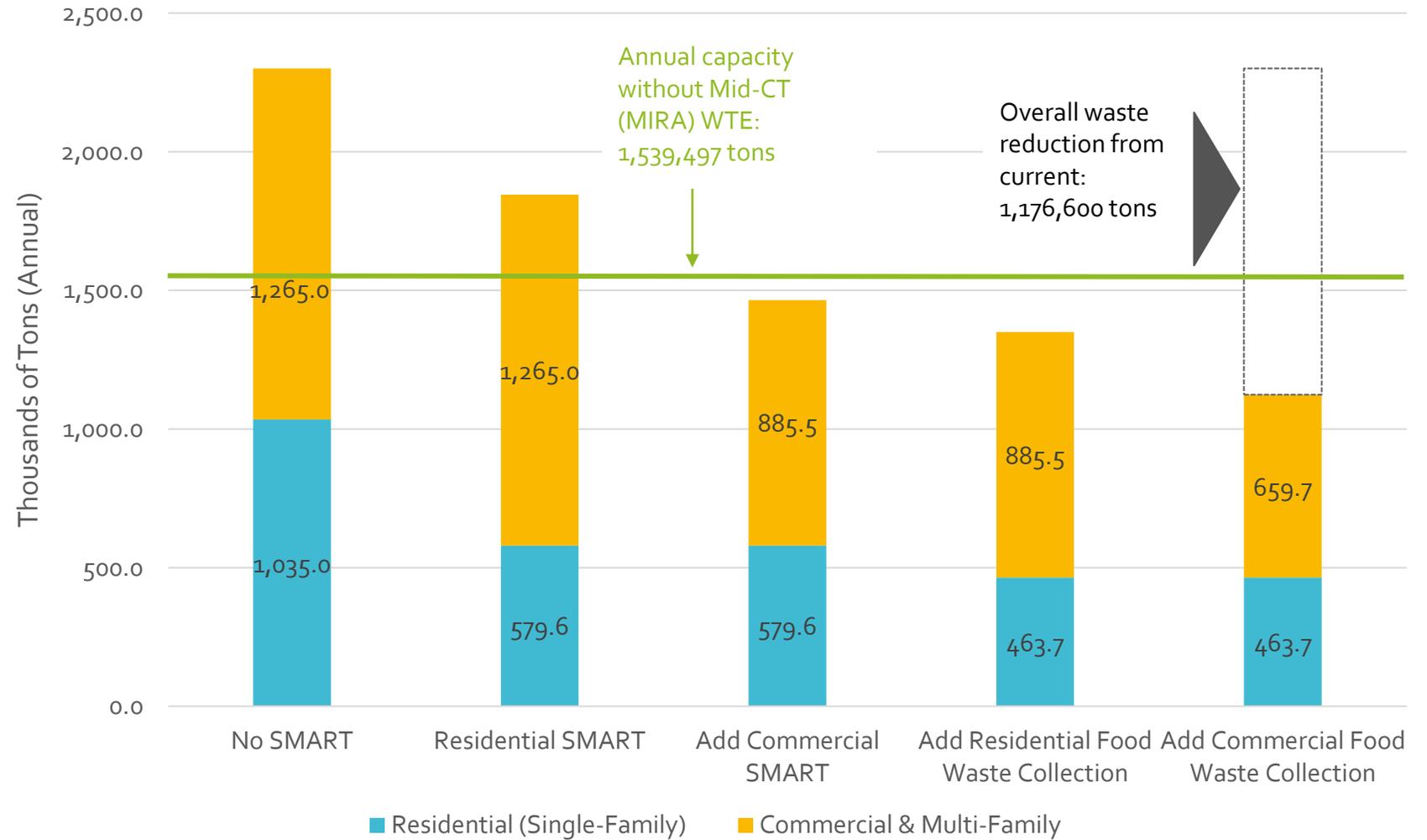
- This meeting is being recorded.
- Municipal participants are encouraged to actively participate during the meeting.
- Non-municipal participants: Please share your ideas and comments will be accepted through the ZOOM chat feature.
- Anyone/everyone encouraged to provide feedback to: DEEP.RecyclingProgram@ct.gov

CCSMM Housekeeping

- CCSMM Page: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP-CCSMM>
- Connecticut is looking to the future of waste reduction and sustainable materials management. DEEP and many municipalities from across the state are joining together to form the **Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management (CCSMM)** and explore ways to reduce the amount of waste that is generated in our state, improve reuse, recycling, organics collection, and other innovative solutions.
- CCSMM is looking to find preferred ways to reduce and manage the amount of waste produced in Connecticut to provide system reliability, environmental sustainability, and fiscal predictability.

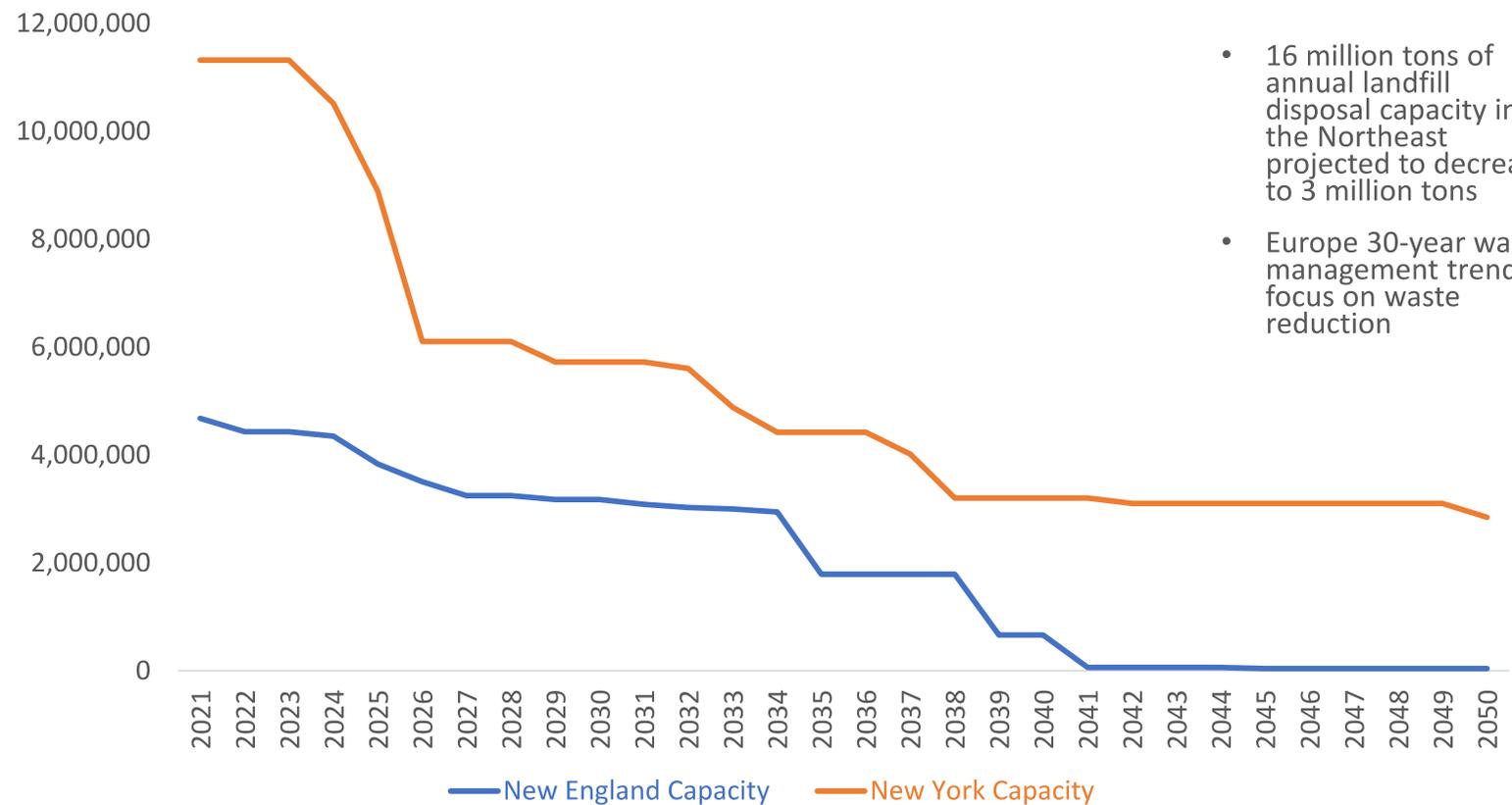
UBP impact on waste stream is significant

Impact of UBP + Universal Food Waste Collection Programs on the Waste Stream



Regional Landfill Capacity Will Shrink 40% in Next 5 Years

Landfill Capacity Through 2050



- 16 million tons of annual landfill disposal capacity in the Northeast projected to decrease to 3 million tons
- Europe 30-year waste management trend – focus on waste reduction

Sources: Report to the Joint Standing Committee on the Environment and Natural Resources, Maine Solid Waste Generation and Disposal Capacity Report, *January 2017*; NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES, *Material Recovery and Waste Reduction Program, ANNUAL REPORT*, Fiscal Year 2007-08; BIENNIAL SOLID WASTE REPORT, OCTOBER 2019, Prepared by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services; MA Material Management Capacity Study February 11, 2019, MSW Consultants

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Working Group

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EPR Working Group

- **PROBLEM – Funding of many municipal materials management programs are unsustainable**
 - Costs and difficulty to manage disposal (e.g., tires, gas cylinders, municipal recyclables/packaging) are rising, and these costs are passed along to municipalities and/or their residents
 - Municipalities bear the risk and feel the most burden when markets fall and change
 - Items such as propane tanks, sharps, smoke detectors and household hazardous waste should be removed from the waste stream but have no or limited recovery programs

EPR Working Group - Legislative Actions

- Establish EPR programs for:
 - Gas cylinders (recommend for 2021 session)
 - Tires (recommend for 2021 session)
 - Packaging (recommend stakeholder engagement in 2021 and introduce legislation in 2022)
 - Household Hazardous Wastes (HHW) (recommend for 2022 session or later)
 - Other products/materials as needed (recommend for 2022 session or later)

EPR Working Group - DEEP Actions

- Support the Connecticut Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) in the promotion of EPR initiatives
- Continue working with CPSC, Connecticut municipalities, other states, local governments, manufacturers and other interested stakeholders, in drafting consistent EPR legislation for packaging.
- In collaboration with municipalities & regional organizations, establish an updated priority list of EPR materials.
- Perform a biannual evaluation of the EPR programs and recommendations for new materials.
- Depending on what type of new or modified infrastructure is needed to support new EPR programs, expediate new permits or modification of existing permits as necessary.
- Work regionally with other interested groups such as PSI, NEWMOA and NERC to foster regional consistency in EPR program implementation and administration.
- In conjunction with CPSC, other states and local governments, participate in stakeholder discussions as new EPR programs are being developed.

EPR Working Group - Municipal Actions

- Affirm EPR as the preferred materials management strategy for increasing recycling of packaging and difficult to recycle materials.
- Support EPR legislation which is consistent with the elements of EPR for gas cylinders and tires if introduced in the 2021 legislative session.
- Continue support for development of EPR legislation for packaging.
- Support the Connecticut Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) in the promotion of EPR initiatives
- Opt in to new EPR programs if municipalities have a choice to participate or not (e.g., Mattress EPR program)
- In collaboration with DEEP, establish an updated priority list of EPR materials.
- Participate in stakeholder discussions as new EPR programs are being developed.

Food Scraps/ Organics Collection and Diversion Working Group

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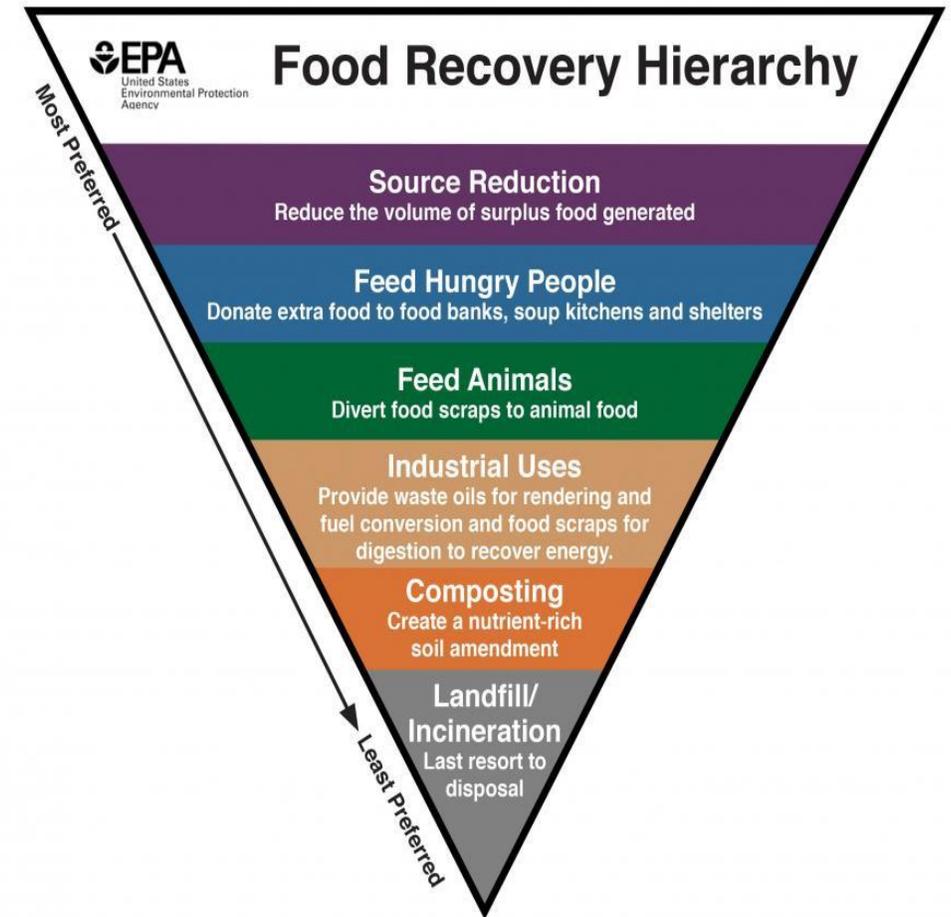
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Food Scrap/ Organics WG

Recognized & Affirmed the solid waste hierarchy (CGS Sec. 22a-228b, CMMS), and the food recovery hierarchy



Food Scrap/ Organics WG - Legislative Actions

Strategic tiered expansion of the Commercial Organics Recycling law ([CGS Sec. 22a-226e](#)):

Reduce law-triggering volume threshold of food manufacturing waste or food scrap generated (currently 52 Tons/ year)

- Allow for iterative volume reduction over specified timeframe

Expand threshold distance or eliminate the 20-mile radius

- Develop infrastructure for organics processing for more comprehensive coverage across the state

Include additional generators

- Hospitality and Entertainment sector
- Colleges and Educational Facilities
- Correctional and Rehabilitation Facilities
- Hospitals and Healthcare
- Other

Capture and divert organics from commercial generators, then expand to residential diversion efforts

Food Scrap/ Organics WG- Legislative Actions

Diversion of Organics from the Waste Stream [CGS Sec. 22a-220\(a\)](#):

Mandate per CGS Sec. 22a-220(a) that all municipalities shall make provisions for diversion or donation of organics from the waste stream through one, or a combination of, the following:

- Adoption of Unit-Based Pricing to incentivize behavior change and drive separation of organics to be used according to the food recovery hierarchy
- Curbside collection of organics (co-collection or separate collection), which may include co-collection with other streams
- Community wide implementation of home composting with subsidized containers and robust education
- Provide for convenient and accessible drop-off of household food waste at a Transfer Station or other municipal property, or at a regional collection facility

Food Scrap/ Organics WG- Legislative Actions

Designate Organics as a recyclable item CGS Sec. 22a-220(a) & [Sec. 22a-241b](#)

Mandate diversion of Source Separated Organic Material (“SSOM”) as a “Designated Recyclable Item” by including SSOM within the list per CGS Sec. 22a-220(a) & Sec. 22a-241b.

- This would require every person to separate organic material at the point of generation from other solid wastes.
- Comingling of SSOM would not be compatible with other designated recyclable items, just as waste oil/used motor oil must be recycled but is not part of curbside programs.
- All municipalities will have to make provisions for collection and diversion of designated organics (per CGS Sec. 22-220(a))

Food Scrap/ Organics WG- Legislative Actions

Amend CGS [Sec. 22a-208cc](#) to increase the non-agricultural organic feedstock percentage for on-farm anaerobic digesters.

Current limit is 5% food, food residual, soiled paper, consider increasing up to 25%. The intent of the 22a-208cc exemption was to ensure at least 50% of the feedstock must be CAFO generated organics, thus the majority of the organics received should remain agricultural.

Food Scrap/ Organics WG- Legislative Actions

Authorize DEEP to conduct procurements for long-term renewable natural gas purchase agreements to support deployment of anaerobic digesters.

- Long-term fixed price contracts for electricity or renewable natural gas produced by anaerobic digesters can help support the financing and development of these facilities.
- Providing DEEP with the authority to offer renewable natural gas purchase agreements enables the state to support AD facilities in a manner consistent with long-term greenhouse gas emission reduction policies for the electric sector.

Food Scrap/ Organics WG- DEEP Actions

Develop streamlined permitting process for:

- the addition of food scraps to registered leaf composting facilities through the issuance of a general permit or adoption of regulations
- small scale composting operations to facilitate community composting and other local diversion opportunities
- composting operations at municipal transfer stations or other municipally-owned properties via the Municipal Transfer Station GP

Update and expand website resources and technical assistance programs based on EPA's Food Recovery hierarchy and EPA's Waste Management Hierarchy

Focused enforcement of generator requirements in CGS Sec 22a-226e, consistent with CMMS and synced with outreach

Food Scrap/ Organics WG- DEEP Actions

Convene stakeholders' regional roundtable forum to establish, expand, and improve the infrastructure for organics reduction, diversion and management.

Potential stakeholders: municipalities, DECD, DoAG, DPH, the Connecticut Green Bank, regional partners (CCM, COST, COGs and regional waste authorities) and other sectors to be determined

Goals can include:

- Anaerobic Digestion, Composting and or food waste-to-animal feed facilities site identification, siting and permit process facilitation
- Coordinated RFPs for long-term contracts for grid-scale anaerobic digestion facilities
- Small, medium, and large food processing facility mapping
- Eastern CT capacity gaps
- Attracting food to animal feed manufacturing
- Attracting financing/locating capacity from expired Bridgeport AD

Food Scrap/ Organics WG- Municipal Actions

- Establish segregated collection of food scraps for diversion for donation or for AD or composting (CGS Sec. 22a-220(a) requires that municipalities make provision for the safe and sanitary disposal of all solid wastes which are generated within its boundaries). Some options include:
 - Curbside collection, mandated by municipal ordinance,
 - Curbside collection, provided as a voluntary service, with fee charged to participants
 - Co-collection (organics in designated compostable bags, collected with the trash and placed in the same cart, sorted at transfer station or MRF)
- Adopt municipal ordinances to drive organics diversion or ban disposal of organics
- Adopt unit-based pricing (UBP) programs – UBP programs increase participation and improve the cost-effectiveness of organics collection programs

Food Scrap/ Organics WG- Municipal Actions

- Affirm/reestablish a designated recycling coordinator CGS 22a-220(i)
- Focus on technical assistance and education
- Develop school-based programs for diversion of organics and education
- Educate municipal public works staff and/or collaborate with contract haulers on identifying and reporting mixed loads (not separating recyclables/organics)
- Ensure collector/hauler registration and reporting
- Update transfer stations, leaf composting and other municipal facilities to expand local capacity to receive yard waste, food scraps, and other organic material

Food Scrap/ Organics WG- Municipal Actions

- In lieu of or supplemental to local capacity, collaborate with other municipalities to develop regional facilities for receiving organic material
- Assess host community & economic benefit potential
- Promote home composting, offer subsidized home compost bin distribution
- Focused enforcement consistent with CMMS, and synced with outreach programs

Increase Recycling Working Group

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Increase Recycling WG- Legislative Actions

- Ban Food Serviceware with PFAS Sold in Connecticut
 - [New York](#) passed law Dec 2020 ([NY Becomes Third State to Ban PFAS Chemicals in Food Packaging](#))
- Modernize Bottle Bill (short term: increase deposit/handling fees, increase types of containers/long term: Oregon model)
- Develop and create Recycled Content Standards - Recycled content performance standards create a market for recycled materials that moves with the supply and demand for recyclables.
 - A group of northeastern states, including Connecticut, have been working with NERC and NEWMOA to create a template for Minimum Recycled Content legislation.
 - California's Minimum Recycled Content Standards [legislation](#), New Jersey's [proposed legislation](#), [U.S. Plastic Pact](#)

Increase Recycling WG- Legislative Actions

- Pass Right to Repair Law - The goal of right-to-repair is to require companies to make their parts, tools and information available to consumers and repair shops in order to extend the use of these items. This approach also seeks to get away from the culture of planned obsolescence — the idea that products are designed to be short-lived in order to encourage people to buy more stuff.
 - Massachusetts passed the first right to repair law in the 1970's, which allows cars to be repaired by independent car repair shops or DIY and created the infamous "Chilton Manuals" with instructions on how to change your own oil, spark plugs, etc.
 - The Massachusetts Right to Repair Initiative (2020), also known as Question 1, appeared on the Massachusetts 2020 general election ballot as an initiated state statute. It was approved by voters and the measure will update the state's right to repair laws to include electronic and mechanical vehicle data related to vehicle maintenance and repair. [Right to Repair Association](#), <http://www.MassRighttoRepair.org>, iFixit.com

Increase Recycling WG- DEEP Actions

- Enforcement, reporting requirements for haulers
- Encourage regional partnerships
- Expand education and technical assistance/outreach
- Expand/ support end-market development
- Support increased reuse and recycling of construction & demolition debris
- Encourage zero waste approaches
- Expand scope and \$ amount for DEEP municipal recycling grants
- Commit to purchase more products with recycled content within EPP and work with other state agencies to do same (EO1)

Increase Recycling WG- Municipal Actions

- Establish swap shops; provide opportunities for textiles collection; and host repair clinics
- Establish ordinance/program to increase deconstruction/reuse & construction/recycling
- Participate in CT WRAP plastic bag/plastic film “Return to Retail”
- Consider regional opportunities for sharing transfer stations and satellite sites
- Strengthen contracts with MRF processors
- Consider a separate glass collection program
- Promote and coordinate effective public space recycling
- Provide for recycling opportunities in municipal buildings
- Strengthen school recycling programs and encourage your schools to join CT Green LEAF Schools Program
- Use RecycleCT's educational and promotional resources
- Establish Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act Resolution
- Examine ordinances to reduce waste presented by UPSTREAM (such as "ask first/opt-in" for single-use accessories for take-out, such as utensils, napkins, condiments, etc.
- Consider banning expanded polystyrene

UBP Working Group

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UBP Working Group- Legislative Actions

- Statewide Mandates - 3 options
 - Establish a per capita waste generation performance measures with no specified implementation method, but with a future phase-in date
 - Require UBP adoption state-wide
 - Authorize municipalities to establish UBP individually, regionally, or in collaboration with WTEs;
 - Allow municipalities or another administrative body to implement specific UBP systems (bag-based, cart-based, hybrid); or
 - Specify administrative structure and/or UBP system to be adopted.
 - WTE facility-based options for UBP adoption
 - Require WTE operators/owners implement waste reduction and diversion strategies
 - Specify UBP and diversion programs,
 - Make qualification of WTEs for Class II RECs contingent on supporting UBP and food scrap diversion

UBP Working Group- DEEP Actions

- Streamline permitting options for municipalities in implementing diversion strategies/programs
- Provide sample ordinances for municipal adoption in support of UBP program implementation
- Expand current DEEP grants administration (in \$ amount and scope) and technical assistance provided by DEEP

UBP Working Group- Municipal Actions

- Adopt UBP through municipal ordinance
 - Bag-Based systems
 - Cart-Based systems
 - Hybrid
- Form regional coalitions for UBP implementation
- Seek cooperative implementation of UBP with WTE facilities
- Petition legislators for state-wide UBP program adoption
- Require haulers to register and comply with bag-based UBP
- Require haulers to adopt a cart-based pricing structure that linearly tracks with cart capacity
- Implement Food scraps diversion
- Establish EPR and other measures to increase diversion of additional materials (e.g. textiles, glass, HHW)
- Support legislative options for UBP, Organics, EPR, etc.
- Itemize solid waste charges on property tax bill for transparency.

Funding Sustainable Materials Management

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Funding Sustainable Materials Management

- **End the exemption for landfilled waste from the Solid Waste Assessment (CGS Sec. 22a-232):** Expand the SWA to apply to all solid waste transferred for disposal (Waste to Energy, Landfill and Incineration), and utilize additional revenue to fund sustainable materials management efforts, such as:

Connecticut's Disposal Fees & Funding

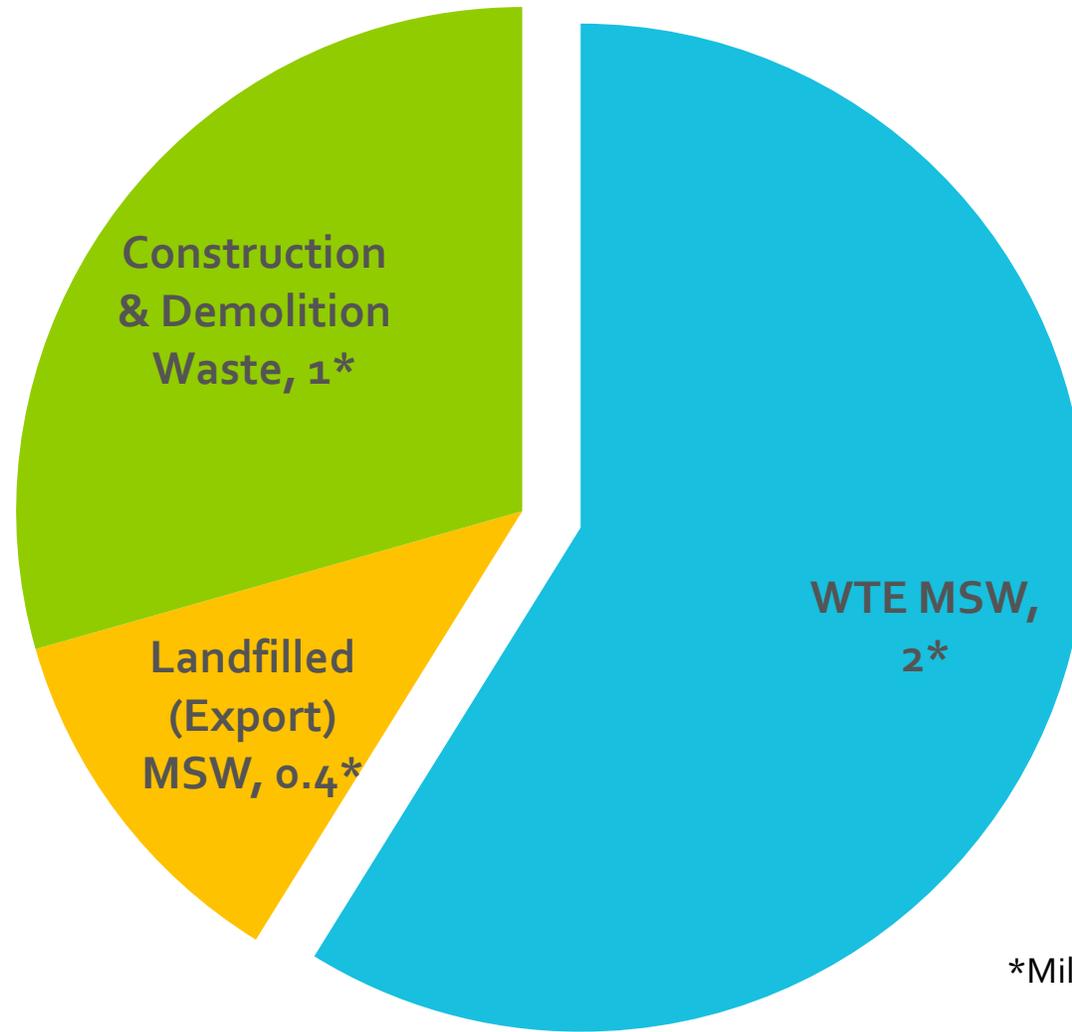
Solid Waste Assessment Fee

- Connecticut currently assesses a fee of \$1.50/ton for MSW transferred to and disposed at in-state waste-to-energy facilities
- Generates approximately **\$3 million** annually (roughly \$750,000 of that from MIRA assuming 500,000TPY)
- Does not apply to disposal at landfills, or to construction & demolition waste.

Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)

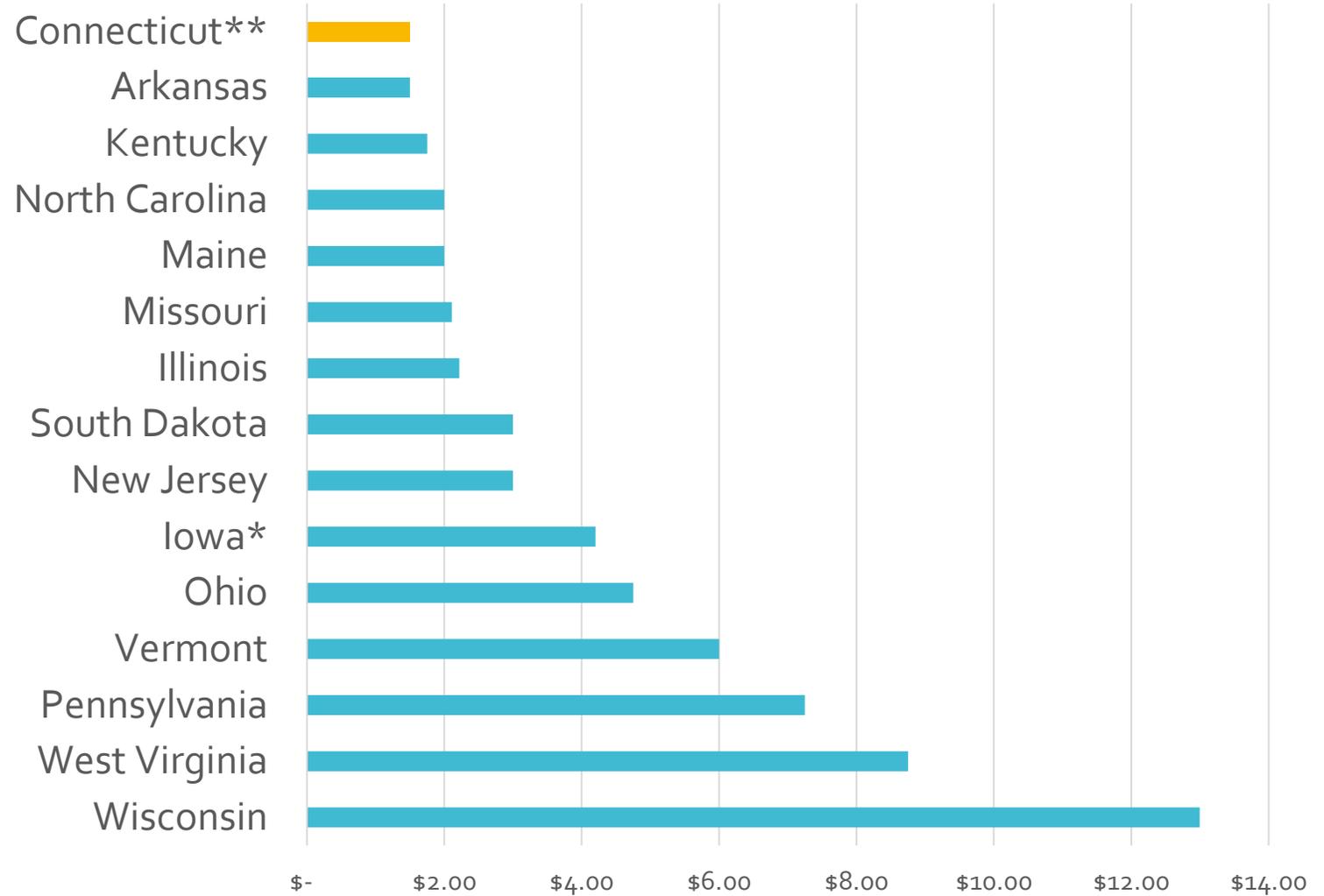
- Waste to Energy (WTE) facilities qualify as Class II renewables in Connecticut's RPS
- Class II REC sales generate *approximately \$15-20 million* per year in revenue for CT's WTE facilities

Annual Disposal Tonnage in Connecticut



*Millions of Tons

Solid Waste Assessment (\$/ton), by State



Funding Sustainable Materials Management

EPR-

- Grants for towns that adopt new EPR programs
- Revenue credits to municipalities, distributed based on percentage reduction in per capita disposal, year-over-year
- Allocate revenue credits to municipalities based on UBP implementation and per capita waste reduction
- Grants to municipalities in support of EPR and diversion program implementations. May fund educational materials, EPR projects through stakeholder dialogues, assistance with writing legislation, evaluations, financial assistance to the CT Product Stewardship Council.

Funding Sustainable Materials Management

Food Scrap/Organics-

- Grants for towns that adopt Food Scrap/Organics Collection and Diversion programs
- Revenue credits to municipalities, distributed based on percentage reduction in per capita disposal, year-over-year
- Allocate revenue credits to municipalities based on UBP implementation and per capita waste reduction
- Grants to municipalities in support of Food scrap/Organics collection and diversion program implementations. May fund educational materials, assist in establishing a municipal collection program and composting operation, may fund collection bags or containers.

Funding Sustainable Materials Management

Increase Recycling-

- Grants for towns that adopt new Recycling programs
- Revenue credits to municipalities, distributed based on percentage reduction in per capita disposal, year-over-year
- Allocate revenue credits to municipalities based on UBP implementation and per capita waste reduction
- Grants to municipalities in support of Recycling and diversion program implementations. May fund:
 - Education, promotion, printing or other materials
 - Staffing for recycling promotion at Schools and at Town level
 - Recycling coordinators, start-up costs for the position
 - Curbside carts, equipment costs
 - Public space containers
- Start-up funds for special projects (organics collection, swap shops, textile collection, events)

Funding Sustainable Materials Management

Unit-Based Pricing-

- Revenue credits to municipalities, distributed based on percentage reduction in per capita disposal, year-over-year
- Allocate revenue credits to municipalities based on UBP implementation and per capita waste reduction
- Grants to municipalities in support of UBP and diversion program implementations. May fund educational materials, UBP bags, a program coordinator, recycling containers or small (24 gallon) trash carts.

CCSMM Next Steps

Full CCSMM Meetings

December 18, 2020 – Municipal Survey Distributed

Jan 5, 1-3 pm – Last Full CCSMM, Finalize Recommendations